

What is claimed is:

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (new) A gunning refractory composition consisting essentially of 40 – 90 dry weight % of amorphous silica aggregates, up to 40 dry weight % of alumina-based compounds, 10 – 15 dry weight % of clay, 0.2 – 2.0 dry weight % of a chemical binder and further containing 2 – 8% of water.

12. (new) A gunning refractory composition according to claim 11, wherein the amorphous silica aggregates comprise vitreous silica.

13. (new) A gunning refractory composition according to claim 11, wherein the alumina based compounds comprise materials selected from the group consisting of kyanite, andalusite, chamote, mullite and mixtures thereof.

14. (new) A gunning refractory composition according to claim 11, wherein the alumina-based compounds content is between 20 – 40 dry weight %.

15. (new) A gunning refractory composition according to claim 11, wherein the chemical binder is a mineral chemical selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, acid alumina phosphate, alumina sulphate and sodium silicate.

16. (new) A gunning refractory composition according to claim 11, wherein the refractory components have 95 wt. % of grain size lower than 4 mm.

17. (new) A gunning refractory composition according to claim 16, wherein the refractory components have 100 wt. % of grain size lower than 5.6 mm.

18. (new) A process for the repair of a hot silica refractory wall comprising the steps of

- a) conveying a refractory composition consisting essentially of 40 – 90 dry weight % of amorphous silica aggregates, up to 40 dry weight % of alumina-based compounds, 10 – 15 dry weight % of clay, 0.2 – 2.0 dry

weight % of a chemical binder and further containing 2 – 8% of water to a gunning nozzle;

- b) mixing the refractory composition with water in the gunning nozzle; and
- c) gunning the obtained mixture against the hot refractory wall.

19. (new) A process according to claim 18, wherein the amorphous silica aggregates comprise vitreous silica.

20. (new) A process according to claim 18, wherein the alumina based compounds comprise materials selected from the group consisting of kyanite, andalusite, chamote, mullite and mixtures thereof.

21. (new) A process according to claim 18, wherein the alumina-based compounds content is between 20 – 40 dry weight %.

22. (new) A process according to claim 18, wherein the chemical binder is a mineral chemical selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, acid alumina phosphate, alumina sulphate and sodium silicate.

23. (new) A process according to claim 18, wherein the refractory components have 95 wt. % of grain size lower than 4 mm.

24. (new) A process according to claim 23, wherein the refractory components have 100 wt. % of grain size lower than 5.6 mm.

25. (new) A process according to claim 18, wherein the refractory wall is a coke oven wall.